

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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66

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01

/076 W

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R 202122Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 656

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS HALIFAX 0229

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, ETRN, CA

SUBJECT: PORT OF HALIFAX LABOUR DISPUTE.

REF : HALIFAX 225

1. FEDERAL MEDIATOR A.R. GIBBONS APPOINTED BY LABOUR MINISTER MUNRO ARRIVED HERE OVER WEEKEND AND HELD MEETINGS WITH NEGOTIATING COMMITTEES OF BOTH INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMENS ASSOC (ILA) AND MARITIME EMPLOYERS ASSOC MONDAY MORNING NOVEMBER 19TH. AFTERNOON AND EVENING OF NOV 19TH AND ALL DAY NOVEMBER 20TH HE HAS MET IN PRIVATE SESSIONS WITH ILA.

2. GIBBONS HAS "INSTRUCTED BOTH PARTIES TO DIRECT ALL ENQUIRIES FROM THE PRESS TO MYSELF, AND FOR THEM TO MAKE NO PUBLIC STATEMENTS REGARDING THE MEDIATION TALKS." HE HAS EXPLAINED THAT HIS ROLE STRICTLY THAT OF MEDIATOR NOT NEGOTIATOR.

3. EFFORTS BY TED GLEASON, PRESIDENT OF ILA, TO ORDER WORK STOPPED ON VESSELS IN BOTH CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES PORTS, IF DETERMINED CARGO DESTINED FOR HALIFAX, SEEMS NOT TO HAVE SUCCEEDED. PRESS CARRIES REPORTS OF DIVERTED CARGOS BEING WORKED IN BOSTON AND QUEBEC (UNDERSTOOD THAT LAW PASSED BY PARLIAMENT LAST YEAR UNDER DESIGNATION C-230 WOULD MAKE PUNISHABLE REFUSAL TO WORK VESSELS IN NON-STRUCK PORTS IN UNCLASSIFIED

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CANADA.)

4. PROBLEM SEEMS TO BE TO GET DOCK WORKERS TO ACCEPT THE
AGREEMENTS THEIR OWN ILA NEGOTIATION COMMITTEE HAD WORKED
OUT WITH MANAGEMENT PRIOR TO STRIKE-LOCKOUT.
MANBEY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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